



National Offender
Management Service

Equality, Rights and Decency Group
National Offender Management Service
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Email: [REDACTED]

Richard Alexander Hulett
Senior Coroner
Buckinghamshire

27 January 2015

Dear Mr Hulett,

Thank you for your Regulation 28 Report of 5 December 2014 addressed to the Governing Governor of HMP Grendon and Springhill, following the recent inquest into the death of Peter Harry Mackie at Springhill on 28 December 2013. Your report has been passed to Equality, Rights and Decency Group in the National Offender Management Service (NOMS), as we have the policy responsibility for suicide prevention and self-harm management, and for sharing learning from deaths in custody.

This response has been provided on behalf of the Governing Governor of HMP Grendon and Springhill and we are responding to the concerns you have raised in your report as follows:

Number of first aiders available on the Springhill site, especially at night

HMP Grendon and Springhill are currently working on increasing the number of trained first aid staff at both establishments to First Aid at work (FAW) and Emergency First Aid at Work (EFAW) level. A number of staff were trained to these levels during 2014 but it is recognised that more are needed at the Springhill site to provide cover, especially at night when healthcare staff are located at Grendon. A new risk assessment is being completed to ensure appropriate levels of staff are identified to provide 24 hour cover. This system will be fully operational within 12 months

Contracted healthcare staff available on the Springhill site

Two healthcare staff are currently contracted to work in Grendon at weekends during the day to provide cover and to facilitate clinics. The shortage of healthcare staff at HMP Springhill has been fed back by the prison to the NHS Commissioners who are responsible for funding and commissioning healthcare services. Any risks in the meantime, due to shortage of healthcare staff at HMP Springhill will be mitigated by the implementation of first aid trained staff on each site to bridge the gap between incident and healthcare staff arriving at the incident.

Guidance to Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) trained prison staff at HMP Grendon and Springhill as to when CPR should be commenced

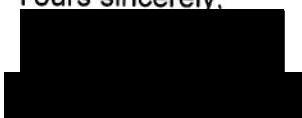
All prison staff who are trained and qualified as first Aiders have undertaken a first aid at work training course, at either the higher level (First Aid at Work course) or the lower level (Emergency First Aid at Work), as required by the Health and Safety (First Aid at Work Regulations) 1981. CPR training forms a fundamental aspect of each of these training courses.

All first aid trained staff will be aware of how and when to apply CPR following the training they receive. A review of the First Aid PSI is currently taking place. Once the period of consultation is complete, a revised PSI will be published. During the interim period, NOMS has issued the old First Aid Guidance for staff to use, as attached.

HMP Grendon and Springhill have sought additional advice from the Resuscitation Council UK on when CPR should be commenced and will be providing staff who work at HMP Grendon and Springhill with written advice on what to do should they find somebody not breathing. This will be provided to all staff in the form of a booklet by 31 January 2015, to ensure staff receive this information. The information will form part of the induction for new staff and will be made available on the local intranet at HMP Grendon and Springhill.

I hope this provides assurance that the specific issues identified in this case, both at the inquest and by the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman, are being addressed.

Yours sincerely,

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NOMS Equality, Rights and Decency Group